

Appl. No. 10/662,271
Amendment dated October 18, 2004
Reply to Office Action of July 19, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1 - 5 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph and accordingly Claim 1 has been amended to overcome such rejection.

Claims 1 - 4 have been rejected over Camfield in view of Osuchowski under 35 USC 103, and Claim 5 has been rejected in view of the above patents and further in view of Skirchak.

Camfield teaches the prior art as understood by the Applicant to include a simulated hard, molded, plastic fuel tank. The Examiner admits that the simulated tank of Camfield does not teach that it is inflatable, and has cited element 10 of Osuchowski to teach this feature.

Osuchowski, however, does not teach an inflatable fuel tank. Element 10 is an air bag that is held within a container 11 disposed on top of the gas tank and is separate from the gas tank. The gas tank of Osuchowski is in no way inflatable as it is made of metal and is designed to hold gasoline. It is only circumstance that the inflatable air bag 10 happens to be positioned on top of the gas tank and is clearly not part of the Osuchowski invention which is an inflatable garment. In no way is the gas tank of Osuchowski inflatable nor could any combination of Camfield and Osuchowski suggest that the solid tank of Camfield be inflatable.

Skirchak is cited as teaching a simulated filler cap on the tank. It is not clear what numerals 56/58 are on casing 38. They are referred to as openings. In any case, since Claim 5 is dependent on prior claims and since it is urged that Claim 1 is allowable, Claim 5, being dependent thereon, should also be allowable.

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Three sheets of formal drawings are enclosed. There is flame adornment on the inflatable tank, as described in the specification.

It is urged that the amended claims overcome the rejections and are now allowable. It is requested that the pending claims be allowed and that a Notice of Allowance issue in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William Nitkin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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